



SW Waterfront WHARF Now at Zoning Commission

By Dale MacIver

The Phase II PUD for the SW Waterfront has now been submitted to the D.C. Zoning Commission for review. It is on their website as Zoning case 11-03A. Click on View Details. The case will be discussed by the commission members and staff and will be set for a public hearing.

(Dozens of those renderings will be available for public view at the Mon. Feb. 27 presentation at Arena Stage). Come see for yourself.

Comments from U.S. Commission of Fine Arts



Perspective View from Banneker Overlook

Meanwhile the PUD was originally explained to the U.S. Commission of Fine



Perspective view from District Pier waterside

Arts in 2010. The commission recently reviewed the latest plans for Stage Two PUD.

Some of the architectural drawings of the development as presented to both commissions are here, together with a few comments by the CFA.

The concluding remark of the Commission of Fine Art in their Jan. 27, 2012, letter was "The Commission members expressed overall enthusiasm for the contribution that this project will make to the city. They look forward to further review of the concrete design components..."

The Southwester spoke with the development's Architect Stan Eckstut, by phone at

Continued on Page 3

Computers Donated For Amidon-Bowen

The SWNA Technology Task Force refurbished 41 computers and set them up in two computer labs at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School, one in the school's Computer Lab and the other in the Library's Computer Lab. The computers were donated by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists located near the Portals in Southwest D.C.

Every morning Ms. Gray and Mr.



Photo by Perry Klein

Ms. Banks with Math students at computers in the A-B Library

Thomas' 3rd Grade use educational programs such as "Ticket to Read" and "V-Math" to help each student learn at his or her individual pace. Other classes are scheduled in the Computer Lab throughout the day.

Ms. Banks brings some of her 4th Grade Math class to the Library Computer Lab to work with "V-Math."



Photo by Perry Klein

Ms. Gray teaches a class in the Amidon-Bowen Computer Lab.

Tsunami Rescue Workers in SW Mon. Mar. 19

"Until the Japanese Government tells us to stop, we'll keep working," [despite dangerous earthquake aftershocks] the Fairfax rescue group told "Stars & Stripes" in Japan on March, 15, 2011, a few days after the quake and tsunami.

The first hand report of the Fairfax team sent to Japan immediately on news of the quake will be given at a public meeting at the SW Library, 7 pm Mon. Mar. 19.

Take the time to learn what steps SW families can take to help the themselves prepare for disasters. For more information please contact Tim Siemsen, SW Emergency Preparedness Task Force Communications Coordinator: tsiemsen.swprepare@gmail.com



Christopher Holmes and "Cazo", Urban Research and Rescue from Fairfax County, search under the rubble of a collapsed school in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010. (AP Photo/Carl Juste)

Emergency Evacuation for D.C.?

The S.W. neighborhood is urged to attend a public meeting on S.W. Neighborhood Planning for Emergencies, on Wed., Feb. 29, at the S.W. Branch Library, 900 Wesley Place, SW (off Eye Street between 4th and 3rd),lower level. Experts will be:

- Kim McCall, Outreach & Community Engagement Director of the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
- Bettye Ward, Emergency Preparedness

Specialist of the District Department of Transportation

This discussion of "Emergency Response Planning & Evacuation Strategy in the District" is sponsored by the SW Emergency Preparedness Task Force of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA).

The goal is to build a disaster resilient community in SW DC through community engagement in emergency preparedness activities, and response planning.

"ZBurger" Opens on 4th St SW



Dozens of eager customers swarmed in for opening day at the new ZBurger restaurant in Waterfront Station at 4th St. SW and M St. SW, early in Feb.

Two of Many Comments From the M St. Corridor Meeting on Jan. 12

By Dale MacIver

Here are just two of the hundreds of suggestions at the public meeting DDOT held at Westminster Church on Jan. 12.

CONNECT THE FISH WHARF AREA TO EAST POTOMAC PARK AND JEF-

PERSON MEMORIAL

The 1998 Urban Land Institute Study sponsored by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly proposed: "Build a new, curving pedestrian walkway and bridge just below the Fourteenth Street Bridge. These improve-

Continued on Page 4



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GRAPE
GRAPE
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WATERFRONT

From p. 1

his New York office. He feels the CFA suggestions are constructive and welcome and will be helpful in further refinement of the design.

The Commission of Fine Arts Secretary Thomas E. Luebke told us the CFA members support the PUD and are not severely critical of the design.

Parcel 2 - Perspective View from Transit Pier Plaza "The Commission [of Fine Arts] members com-



Perspective View from Transit Pier Plaza

mented that the design is over-articulated, resulting in a perception of numerous architectural fragments rather than a legible overall building design; they recommended instead a quieter and less assertive design approach."

Parcel 3B Perspective view from Maine Ave. SW "The Commission [of Fine Arts] supported the establishment of a distinctive architectural identity for the hotel but... questioned the design and scale of the clock tower, rising two stories above the mass of the building..."



Perspective view from Maine Ave

Letter to the Editor re SW Waterfront PUD

In January the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) reviewed HMW's development plans for Southwest Waterfront. CFA is an agency mandated to review and provide guidance on "matters of design and aesthetics for various areas in Washington including Southwest waterfront properties and the L'Enfant Plaza area. Decisions are made by a seven-member panel composed of nationally-renowned urban designers, architects, landscape architects and artists.

In reviewing both Stage I (basic building height, mass, layout, and uses) and Stage II (detailed site and building review) of the development, the Commission expressed over all support for the project. Specifically they conveyed appreciation for the overall hierarchy of parcels and streets, emphasis on placemaking, and accommodation of many modes of circulation within the site.

However over the course of three hours, the Commission articulated a range of serious concerns and disagreements with the various elements under consideration: Master Plan, Signage and Wayfinding, Public Spaced, District Pier and Town Square, 7th Street Pier and Park, Waterfront Park, Main Avenue, Parcels 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5, and Capital Yacht Club. Excerpts of the Commission's review letter are pasted below. In many respects, they echo comments from Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and other community members who've expressed concern about the impact of the development on Southwest's Mid-Century tradition. A tradition that celebrates viewsheds, a refined color palette, clearly articulated buildings and tempered open spaces.

Ultimately the Commission requested that the "designs be developed and resubmitted for further concept-level review before progressing to a final design submission."

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AARP Luncheon

AARP-Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751, Wednesday, March 21, 2012, 12 p.m. luncheon and discussion on emergency preparedness. Ms. Kim McCall, DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency. River Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave., SW.

St. Augustine's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse

7 March, 2012. 7:00 pm Program: Don't I Know You? An evening's entertainment of portraits in verse read by Tara Ramsey and Bruce Crane. Readings will be followed by Q & A. Refreshments. Donations accepted. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW., Telephone: 202 554-3222.

M STREET

From p. 1

ments could connect the Southwest Waterfront to East Potomac Park and combined with better pedestrian and bicycle links to the Jefferson Memorial and the Tidal Basin could make regional recreational connections possible."

The National Capital Planning Commission Waterfront report of 1999 recommends "...pedestrian linkages that tie the east bank of the Washington Channel to East Potomac Park and connect the Southwest community to the park's open spaces..."

KEEP THE PRESENT SO CAPITOL ST. BRIDGE FOR LOCAL USE WHEN THE NEW ONE IS CONSTRUCTED

DC Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton's media release in Nov. 2011, says "the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has awarded \$68 million to the District of Columbia for construction of a new Frederick Douglass/ South Capitol Street Bridge... Specifically, the funding announced today will be utilized for right of way acquisition." She added "the bridge is indispensable to the thousands of federal workers who come into the District for work every day."

The present bridge can be kept for local travel when the new bridge is built.



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Some Important Tax Changes for 2011 Returns

By Iris Burnell,
Jackson Hewitt on Capitol Hill

2011 Making Work Pay Credit and Payroll Tax Holiday

The Payroll Tax Holiday was in effect for 2011 and was intended to make up for the loss of the Making Work Pay Credit. The Making Work Pay Credit was not extended into 2011. If you're an employee, you should see a few extra dollars in your paycheck each pay period this year. All wage earners will see a temporary reduction in the payroll tax from 6.2% to 4.2%. The tax breaks also impacts SE tax for self-employed taxpayers by reducing their Social Security tax rate by 2% also. Self-employed taxpayers will continue to get the full adjustment for one-half of their SE Taxes paid as the adjustment is calculated before the 2% reduction in taxes.

2011 Capital Gains and Losses Reporting

The Schedule D has been reworked and is now a summary schedule. The Schedule D-1 has been retired and replaced with the new Form 8949, Sales and Other Dispositions of Capital Gains. The Form 8949 is used to report sales and other dispositions of capital



Iris Burnell

assets. Part I is for short-term capital gains and losses, and Part II is for long-term gains and losses. Individual gains and losses will no longer be calculated on the Schedule D. Instead all transactions purchases and sales prices are added together and reported on the appropriate line on Schedule D.

2011 Energy Credits

The Tax Relief Act of 2010 extended Non-business Residential Energy Efficiency Property Credit through 2011. The credit reverted back to the pre-2009 regulations. Under these rules, taxpayers are limited to a lifetime total credit of \$500. Additionally, the credit is reduced to 10% (from 30%) of the total price of allowed energy efficient improvement to a main home. Finally, the credit is further limited by the type of improvement.

\$50 max credit for qualified air circulation fans

\$150 max credit for qualified furnace

\$200 max credit for qualified windows

\$300 max credit for qualified hot water heater, air conditioning unit, electric heat pump, and biomass fuel stove

Community Calendar - Feb. 27 - March 3, 2012

FEBRUARY

MON. 27 - 6-9 PM Designing the SW Wharf, by PN Hoffman-Madison, Arena Stage, 1101 6th St SW, Kreeger Theatre. www.wharfdc.com.

TUES 28 7PM AN6D's Alcoholic Beverage Committee, King Greenleaf Rec. Center, 200 N St. SW

WED. 29 7 PM - 8-30 PM Public Meeting of the SW Emergency Preparedness Task Force - SW Library, 900 Wesley Place SW ((off I (Eye) St. SW between 3rd & 4th St. SW, lower level

MARCH

THURS. 1 8 AM - 9:30 AM Councilmember SW public office hours - Pier 7 coffee shop, 650 Water St. SW

WED. 7 7 PM Paws of Southwest meeting. SW Library, I (Eye) St. between 3rd & 4th.

WED. 7 7 PM Art & Spirit Coffeehouse. Readings in verse by Tara Ramsey and Bruce Crane, St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW. 202-554-3222 Donations accepted.

FRI. 9 8 PM Opening of Ah, Wilderness!, Arena Stage Kreeger Theatre, 1101 Sixth St. SW. 202-488-3300 www.arenastage.org.

SUN. 11 2AM - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

MON. 12 7 PM ANC6D Meeting, 1100 4th St SW, DCRA Meeting Room 2nd floor. 202-554-1795.

SAT. 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY

MON. 19 7 PM Tsunami rescue worker. Public meeting. SW Emergency Planning Task Force. SW Library, Wesley Place &

K St. SW.

WED. 21 12 NOON AARP Luncheon Meeting. River Park Mutual Homes, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW. Community Room.

WED. 21 6:30 PM American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Support Group, 1104 - Fourth St., SW, SWNA/ANC Conference Rm., 1st floor, RSVP required. Contact Thelma Jones at tjones15@verizon.net or (202) 251-1639.

MON. 26 7 PM Southwest neighborhood Assembly Annual Meeting

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW, every first and third Monday from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

THE SOUTH WASHINGTON WEST OF THE RIVER FATHERHOOD PROGRAM, St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. For more information, call Alphonso Coles at (202) 870-1885.

SOUTHWEST SEWING GROUP, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW. Contact Willie Mae Stukes, sewing teacher, at (??) Open to all interested in working on their own sewing projects and updating their hand and/or machine sewing skills. Mondays, except for July and August.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA, Alcoholics Anonymous group, Mondays, 8:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW, (202) 554-3222.

SW FREEWAY NA, Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.,

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. SW, (202) 484-7700.

AARP-SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT CHAPTER 4751, Third Wednesday of each month, except for June, July and August, River Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW. For further information, contact Chapter President Elger Offutt at ee.offutt@comcast.net or (202) 285-4677.

HAND DANCING CLASSES, Jitterbug, Lindy hop. Saturdays, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children ages 8 - 17. Christ United Methodist community room off Wesley Pl., SW.

CHESS CLUB, SW Library main room, 900 Wesley Pl., Wednesday 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. For all levels, even beginners.

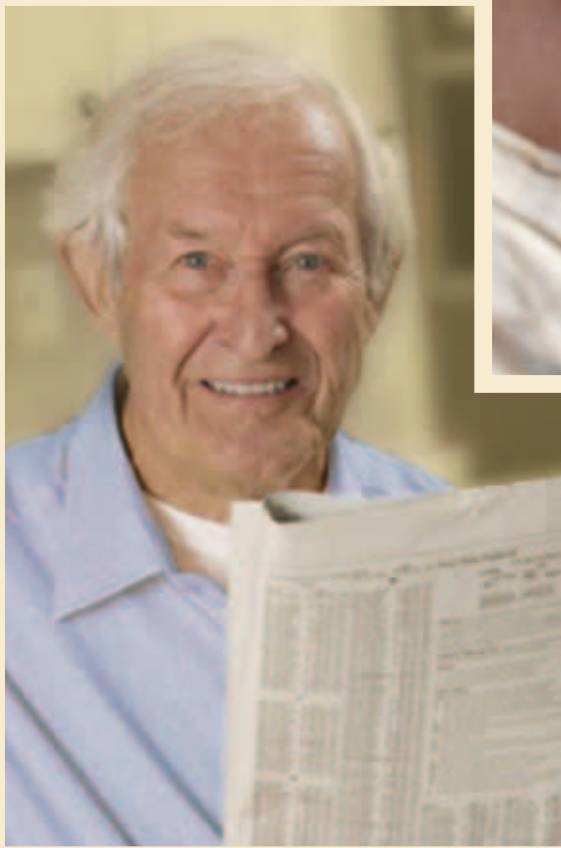
BLUES MONDAYS, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various blues musicians and singers featured each Monday, \$5. Food for sale.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS, 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). 7 p.m. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). Free with donations welcome.

JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, Fridays, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday, \$5. Food for sale.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. First and third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade, and sell stamps. Refreshments, auctions, and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block I St., SW (202) 291-6229.

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Japanese Art at Sackler Gallery

(from a release)

What better way for the Sackler Gallery to honor the Cherry Blossom Centennial than with special exhibits of major Japanese works which reflect the interests of 19th-century Edo (now Tokyo).

WHAT: Masters of Mercy: Buddha's Amazing Disciples

WHEN: March 10 to July 8.

Selections from a series by Kano Kazonobu's phantasmagoric paintings reflect a popular theme in Edo art. The lives and deeds of the Buddha's legendary 500 disciples are shown at work in the world, engaged in activities ranging from miraculous acts of compassion to everyday chores, such as washing clothes and caring for animals.

WHAT: Hokusai: Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji

WHEN: March 24 to June 17

Japan's most famous artist, Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849), and some of the best-known images in world art, including "Beneath the Wave Off Kanagawa" or "The Great Wave" and "South Wind at Clear

Dawn" or "Red Fuji" are featured. A landmark in Japanese print publishing, with innovative compositions, techniques and coloration, "Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" established landscape as a new subject for Japanese prints and is a perfect compliment to our beloved Cherry blossoms in the Tidal basin.

WANT TO GO?

WHERE: The Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, located at 1050 Independence Avenue S.W., and the adjacent Freer Gallery of Art, located at 12th Street and Independence Avenue S.W., are on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

WHEN: Hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day

ADMISSION: free.

INFORMATION: For programs and other events, visit www.asia.si.edu. For general Smithsonian information, the public may call (202) 633-1000 or TTY (202) 633-5285.

Plays by O'Neill at Arena Stage

(from a release)

Eugene O'Neill has been described as the transforming figure in American theater history, one who saved it from a false world of superficial melodrama. So it is no small task for Arena Stage in a partnership to present a two-month Eugene O'Neill Festival, which will highlight three of O'Neill's major works and readings of several others. O'Neill knew the theater of his time first hand. He was born in a Times Square hotel (now a Starbucks). His father was a stage actor who played in the moneymaker of its day The Count of Monte Cristo over 5,000 times—a record that rare stage or television shows today have met. (The family summer cottage was appropriately named Monte Cristo Cottage). But O'Neill meant very much for American Theater to



be more. In these days of formula weekly series, the time is right for a look at work of the playwright whose vision was for an American theater of power and greatness.

The festival opens with *Ah Wilderness!* — one of O'Neill's early works — his only comedy — fondly regarded as a sweet memory of a simpler time.

The second offering *Long Day's Journey into Night*, was written over three decades later. There is autobiographical material in both plays but *Long Day's Journey* has become the catchphrase for family delusion and disenchantment.

Difficult for sure — O'Neill had no intention that it would be produced in his lifetime — its greatness has endured.

An Al Hirschfeld Installation will be on display throughout the festival in the lobby. And for fun, on St. Patrick's Day, there will be a sing-a-long in the lobby.

WANT TO GO?

WHAT: THE EUGENE O'NEILL FESTIVAL

WHAT: *Ah, Wilderness!*

WHEN: March 9-April 8, 2012

WHERE: Fichandler Stage

WHAT: *Long Day's Journey into Night*

WHEN: March 30 – May 6, 2012

WHERE: Kreeger Theater

TICKETS: \$55-85 subject to change and based on availability, plus applicable fees. Purchase online at www.arenastage.org or by phone at 202-488-3300 or at the Sales Office at 1101 Sixth St., SW, D.C.

CURTAIN TIMES:

Regular performances are Tuesday, Wednesday & Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Weekday matinee at noon on Tuesday

WHAT: SOUTHWEST NIGHTS

WHEN: *Ah Wilderness!* Friday, March 16, at 8 p.m.

WHEN: *Long Day's Journey into Night* Sun., April 8, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

COST: Southwest D.C. neighbors may buy discounted tickets for specially designated performances of each production. Tickets are \$35 for musicals and \$25 for non-musicals, plus fees. Proof of Southwest D.C. residency or employment for each member of the party must be presented at the time of purchase. Tickets are limited to four per person and are based on availability.

THE WHARF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTICE

REGARDING THE SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT

Hosted by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly

Monday, February 27 from 6-9pm

Arena Stage

1101 6th Street, SW

In the Kreeger Theater

Hoffman-Madison Waterfront will present updated plans and renderings submitted to the District of Columbia Zoning Commission as part of its Stage II PUD application for The Wharf.

Hoffman-Madison Waterfront 690 Water Street SW Washington, DC 20024 www.wharfdc.com

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Contemporary Japanese Artists at Pepco

February 16 – March 25, 2012

Pepco's Edison Place Gallery,
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"2:46 and thereafter"

Working in collaboration with DAN-DANS, a Tokyo based artist collective, Transformer is honored to present 2:46 and thereafter, an exhibition highlighting emerging Japanese artists' responses to the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan's north-east coast, and its affect on the country and the Japanese people. The title of the exhibition, 2:46 and thereafter, marks the time the earthquake hit, referenced throughout Japan in the same vein Americans now reference the date 9/11.

For more details, please see: <http://usjapantomodachi.org/pdfs/wwwf-246-and-thereafter.pdf>

Closing Reception: With special performance by On Megu Akiyosh, Sat., Mar. 24th; 6 - 8 pm

Kids Power Up with Power Lunch

By Meg Brinckman, Andrew Finken

What do professionals do during lunch? Go for a walk, call a friend, or maybe surf the web? Maybe they just eat a sandwich and read the newspaper? During lunch at Amidon-Bowen Elementary, professionals from nearby offices are changing lives.

Called Power Lunch, in schools all over Washington D.C., professionals are volunteering their lunch time once per week to read to kids. Amidon-Bowen students, because of the school's proximity to the Federal Center area, have access to probably the best-educated mentors in the country, and come lunch time, approximately 27 volunteers check in to Amidon-Bowen's Library every day.

On a recent Friday, walking through the Amidon-Bowen library at lunchtime, the mood is quiet and comfortable. The room is



Tonya Crumbe, Dee Ellison

interest of youngsters with books that introduce them to the places in the world around them, both near and far.

Perhaps the most undeniable proof of the program's success is the fact that Power Lunch take place at the same time as recess, yet the kids still show up with smiling faces every week. Fourth grade teacher Jana Banks said that when she asked one of the boys in her class what day he liked most in the school week, he answered, "The days we have Dance Class, PE, and Everybody Wins."

Based on longevity and attendance, Power Lunch is succeeding, and Mary Salander, founder and Executive Director of Everybody Wins!, attributes this to the power of such high-quality mentors as stellar role models and the magic of reading. "Students are not always entering grade school on a level playing field," said Salander. "Reading is the key to opening doors, and it is the foundation of learning. Our goal is to reach as many kids as possible with all

of the resources that we can summon."

The education non-profit organization Everybody Wins! launched Power Lunch, its first program, in 1995. They now run three literacy programs in 38 Title 1 schools across the D.C. area that serve about 4,000 students every week. Power Lunch, matches one elementary student with one reader, called a mentor, one time per week every week. It's that simple... and wildly popular.

Continued on Page 11



Murshawn Copeland, Tom Sullard

full, and the quiet hum of young readers is all around with quick, audible, snippets of different stories. 4th grader Dee Ellison is proudly reading a "chapter's book" on Black History to her mentor for the last three years Tonya Crumbe.

On the other side of the room, Murshawn Copeland and his mentor, Tom Sullard, (2011 Everybody! Wins Mentor of the Year), are navigating a book of maps to discover places both familiar and foreign. Sullard, retired from the Cost Guard, works to capture the



DC Court program for juveniles on So. Capitol St. SW near M St. SW

Court Services for Youth at 1201 So. Capitol St. SW

(Miscellaneous emails)

BARJ (Balance and Restorative Justice) is an intervention/prevention program for pre-trial juveniles in the Court system. This is the Court system's third drop-in center they are creating in the city that targets youth in pre-trial services and serving probation with positive programming. The other two are located in Wards 5 and 8. Specifically, it's intended as a resource for youth that live in the Southwest neighborhood to put more services close by and create a program that is providing more direct oversight and assistance to keep them out of further trouble.

The program will operate from 4 to 8:45 through the week and 10 to 2 on Saturday. Every other Saturday will be devoted to community service projects. The youth are mandated by the court to attend BARJ. This program in SW will vary somewhat from the other two sites with vocational activities to help provide work skills. The program will

handle up to 30 youth for 90 days. Some youth maybe extended for extra 90 days but this is unusual. The young males will not stay over night. It is not a release center, and the youth will not be coming from across the city. All youth will be screened and assessed for mental health and substance abuse issues with appropriate treatment provided. This will be a program for males from 12 to 17. There maybe some exceptions but this is not likely. To date they are having considerable success. The numbers appear to be about 5 to 6 percent recidivism rate — which is extremely successful. They may have some youth there in the day earlier than 4 PM as any youth in the program who are suspended from school will report to the BARJ Center. Youth will be for 20024, 20003, and lower parts of NW & NE. This appears to be an after school project with wrap around services for social services and intensive case management by Court staff.

Allen A. Flood, M.D.

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Councilmember Wells Approves Court Action on Southwest House

From a release

Councilmember Wells has worked closely with the Office of the Attorney General for nearly four years to investigate the circumstances surrounding the 2006 sale of the SWCHA property. On November 10, 2011, he announced that the Attorney General had filed a request for Receivership with DC Superior Court to put any SWCHA remaining resources back into the community through appointment of a receiver.

"I am hopeful this decision is the next step to ensure any funds remaining from the sale of the property are protected and will be put to good use to support families and those in need in Southwest," stated Wells.

(FROM THE WEBSITE OF THE D.C. GOVERNMENT)

"DC Attorney General Announces Southwest Community House Association in Receivership"

"District of Columbia Attorney General Irvin Nathan announced today that Southwest Community House Association, a social services organization in D.C. since 1901, has been placed in receivership. The receiver, Lisa Burford, was appointed on December 14 by Superior Court Judge Todd Edelman and charged with recommending a "plan, if feasible, for returning [the association] to its nonprofit purposes of providing vital services to low and moderate income residents in

Continued on Page 9

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The Paws of Southwest: Our Two- and Four-foot Residents

By Gwyn Jones

Last spring in these pages, you may have read about the formation of a group of SW dog owners who wanted to create a dog park here in Southwest. For the last

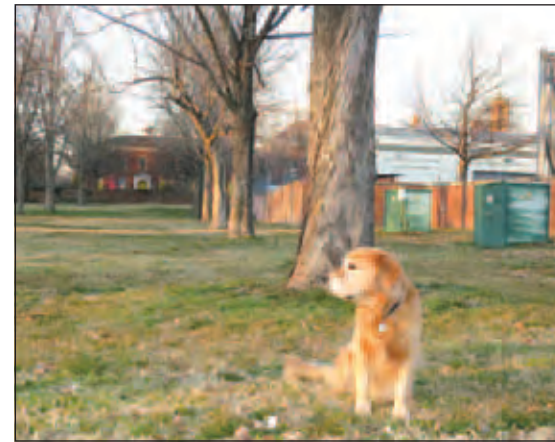
several months the group has been working quietly behind the scenes to grow the group and build support for our 4-footed friends to have a safe place to play off-leash.

Our group now has a name: The Paws of

Southwest, and we hope you'll be seeing and hearing a lot more from us in the coming months. Working closely with the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, we hope to be a catalyst for the rejuvenation of Lansburgh Park, at Delaware and I streets, SW.

Although right now Lansburgh has been neglected by DC Parks and Recreation – the lighting hasn't worked in years, for example – we see it for its potential as a gathering place for humans and canines alike. It's a huge space, and we believe part of it could be fenced off for dogs, leaving the rest of it for gatherings and festivals, a community garden, perhaps a playground – and who knows?

Like many Southwesters, we are looking forward to the park planning and visioning

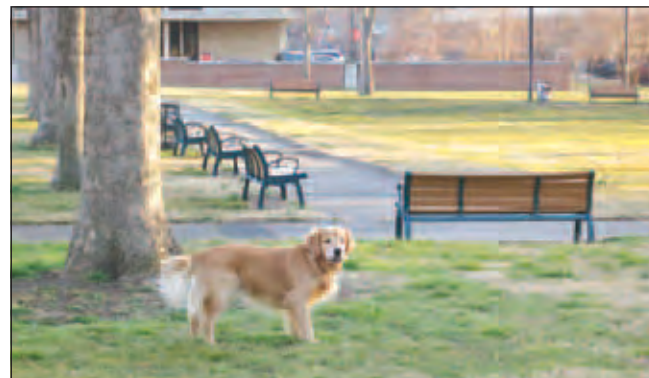


water fountains, etc., that this park needs to be great public space.

In addition to creating a dog park, the Paws of Southwest aims to help build our community through responsible dog ownership. We want to be good neighbors and help educate dog owners and non-dog owners alike in the fun and responsibilities of having dogs in the city.

The Paws of Southwest currently meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at the Southwest Public Library meeting room. Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 7. We also encourage you to join us. You can also find us on our Google Group, [SW Dog Park](#). There you'll be able to keep up with Paws of Southwest activities as well as volunteer opportunities.

(Gwyn Jones is a 19-year resident of Southwest and a volunteer with the Paws of Southwest)



session that SWNA is working to organize so that we can come together and create a place that everyone in our community will enjoy coming to. We hope that we can help SWNA demonstrate to DCPR that there is a strong constituency for Lansburgh Park and advocate not just the dog park, but just as important the capital improvements such as lighting,

Religious Calendar

Galilee A.M.E. Church

Worshipping at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW
202-258-6812

Rev. S. Isaiah Harvin

Sunday: 2 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study

7:30 p.m.

Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle of the Assemblies of God

60 I St. SW

202-251-5137

Pastor Fitzgerald Carter

Sunday: 10:45 a.m.; Friday Prayer

and Bible Study: 8 p.m.

Carron Baptist Church

1354 First St., SW

202-484-3172

Pastor Lester W. Allen

Sunday: 11 a.m.

Tuesday: Noon Day Prayer, 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Friendship Baptist Church

900 Delaware Ave. SW

202-488-7417

Rev. Dr. J. Michael Little, Pastor

Sunday: 9:30 A.M., Sunday School;

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Service and

Bible Study

Riverside Baptist Church

Seventh St. and Maine Avenue SW

202-554-4330

Pastor Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

Sunday: 10 a.m. with Bible Study at

9 a.m.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church

1105 New Jersey Ave. SE

202-488-7298

Rev. Dr. Maxwell M. Washington, Pastor

Sunday: 8 a.m. Sunday School; 9:05

a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting &

Bible Study

Second Baptist Church Southwest

First & M streets, SW

202-484-3112

Pastor C.L. Brown

Sunday: Church School 8:30 a.m.;

Morning Worship: 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study noon and 7

p.m.

Second Union Baptist Church

1107 Delaware Ave. SW

202-484-7012

Rev. William Harrison, Pastor

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School,
10:15 a.m. Worship

St. Dominic Catholic Parish

603 E St. SW

202-554-7863

Fr. George Schommer

Saturday: 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:15

p.m. (Spanish),

and 5:15 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

14 M St. SE

202-488-1354

Fr. Richard Gancayco

Sunday: 8 a.m.

Mon. and Fri.: 12:10 p.m.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

600 M St. SW

202-554-3222

Rev. Martha Clark

marthakclark@yahoo.com

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Worshipping at First Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 Fourth St. NW at Judiciary Square

410-375-5053 (cell)

Pastor Phillip Huber

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Thursday: 6 p.m.: Bread and Soup,

6:45 p.m.

Evening Prayer

Christ United Methodist Church

900 Fourth St. SW

202-554-9117

Rev. Adrienne Terry

Sunday: 10 a.m.

Thursday: 12 noon & 6:30 p.m.,

Bible Study

St. Paul African Union Methodist Protestant Church

401 I St., SE

202-997-3049

Rev. Karen Mills

Sunday: 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

400 I St. SW

202-484-7700

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ruth Hamilton and

Rev. Brian Hamilton

Sunday: Worship 11 a.m.

Blue Monday Blues: 6 - 9 p.m.

Wellness Wednesday Yoga:

4 - 8 p.m.

Friday Jazz Nights: 6 - 9 p.m.

Take Back Our Park

By Kael Anderson

Lansburgh Park is the largest, most centrally-located recreation/park space for Southwesterners. A recent article in the Southwester explored the park's notable history. But notwithstanding an expansive mowed lawn among other amenities, it provides little to no benefit to Southwest—recreational, environmental, or otherwise. Indeed some of our elected representatives in the Wilson Building recently proposed using it for residential development.

It's time to take Lansburgh back.

A group of stakeholders including DC Council reps, DPR staff, ANC commissioners, recreational groups, and neighbors have

been holding exploratory meetings. We have the support of Councilmember Tommy Wells' office and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation to improve the grounds, making them both attractive and functional. A couple of groups have already come forward and developed plans to activate portions of the park and fund related improvements. Basketball courts also have been proposed since those at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School may have a limited future.

But no plans have been set in stone. Indeed we're organizing a community charrette on Lansburgh Park for this spring to crystallize the plan for the Park, including what improvements will occur. Contact us at LansburghPark@gmail.com if you have an interest in participating.

Southwest Playground Project Update

By Felicia Coutts,
Project Director

Volunteers from the Southwest Playground Project (SWPP), an initiative of the Near SE/SW Community Benefits Coordinating Council, a 501(c)(3) organization, have been busy behind the scenes since a design charrette was held on December 10 for the playground. Our landscape architect from

Landscape Architect Bureau has been working on a design for the playground based on input from the community at the charrette. Fundraising has been strong – we've been able to raise close to \$130,000 towards the purchase of equipment, site preparation, and maintenance of the playground. A 2007 soil test performed by the National Park Service shortly before the Library

Continued on Page 11

History of Southwest Waterfront Parks

By Hayden M. Wetzel

When the rebuilding of Southwest was first conceived clearly one of the main questions was what to do with the Potomac Channel waterfront, then a collection of long-established if modest restaurants, boat landings and oil storage tanks. Maine Avenue (formerly named Water



Waterfront Park with depressed area that was used for years for performance stage for annual SW Festival of the Arts.

Street) ran directly alongside the water from the 14th Street Bridge to P Street and Ft. McNair, where traffic then turned east on P Street. Early planning left the street as was and placed a number of small parks on the west side (away from the channel), but a desire for better aesthetics and also more commercial space led Stanley Sherman, RLA's chief of design, to shift the street "inland" as we see today. Even earlier (1955) an overall plan for the layout of all the urban renewal area south of M Street, written by the firm of Satterlee & Smith (this is the Cloethiel Woodward Smith who later became so prominent an architect in Southwest), proposed terminating Maine Avenue at M Street and making all east-west cross streets (N-P) west of 4th Street into pedestrian walks. This created a large, car-free area along the channel ready for a major park.

In 1962 Smith (now working independently) presented "A Master Plan for the Washington Waterfront" to the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA). In this she laid out a series of small parks dotting the waterfront above M Street connected by "a continuous public walk – but not a dreary, straight-line stretching on endlessly." The

large area south of M was "not yet designed in detail." The Commission approved this plan in 1963 (one small park, just south of the Fish Market, was never built.)

Actual design of these parks was given to the landscape architecture firm Sasaki Associates, headed by the immensely admired Hideo Sasaki. (Sasaki himself sat on the Commission of Fine Arts.) Associated with Sasaki in the work were Philip Minervino and Don Olson. Olson recalls that several constraints not obvious to the casual observer limited their design: the parks were built above a parking garage, limiting the depth of planting spaces and ruling out large trees; and the necessity of fire access from the street ruled out extensive planters, benches, flag poles and other vertical elements. "These parks replaced what was once a very lively waterfront fish market and restaurant area. I was disappointed to find that the entire area was being torn down and sanitized. There must have been good reasons for doing so, but such a missed opportunity" (Olson).

CFA generally approved the design but some neighbors objected. "The proposed pavilions at the north end of the [large southern] park will amount to a wall one story high, so placed as to block off the charming view of boats. You know that we are paying heavily for this view and are not going to be deprived of it without protest," wrote one irate resident. The pavilions were scrapped and in 1967 the National Park Service moved the Titanic Memorial to the site from a parkway-obscured site near the Lincoln Memorial.

The parks were built between 1968 and 1972 at a cost of \$1.5 million, and named "Southwest Waterfront Parks" the next year.



Waterfront Park with Maine Lobsterman statue

SW HOUSE

From p. 7

the Southwest D.C. community." Southwest Community House Association consented to the receivership, which the District requested in a civil complaint alleging that the association, after suffering a series of financial and legal setbacks, failed "to maintain a presence in Southwest D.C. for the benefit of the community it was established to serve, and historically did serve." The District said in its complaint that the association's access to grants – its primary source of funding – was cut off in 2006, after an audit of its finances showed irregularities. In mid-2006, Southwest Community House Association sold its only asset, a building at 156 Q Street, S.W.

Since then, the association has not maintained an office and has not engaged in or supported substantial charitable activity. The lawsuit followed an investigation by the Office of the Attorney General into the association's corporate management and finances. The Attorney General is authorized by the District law to seek a receivership over a nonprofit corporation that continues to act contrary to its nonprofit purposes. The receiver, Ms. Burford, is a D.C.-based consultant for nonprofit organizations." Ms. Burford states that "she is in the process of gathering data to determine the most effective way to get the resources of the SWCHA back to the community." Anyone wishing to contact her may do so by email at Lisa@LCB-Consulting.org or 202-271-4654.

(They had earlier been called the "Channel Waterfront Parks.") The four smaller parks were transferred to DC Government jurisdiction in 1981 while the southernmost park remains with the National Park Service. The smaller ones will all be destroyed for renovation of the waterfront, although the Maine Lobsterman (installed later) will be retained.

In 1968 an official of the city's Redevelopment Land Agency wrote that the Waterfront Parks project "will culminate in the completion of one of the National Capital's most attractive park and recreation areas."

Over 30 years later local historian Richard Longstreth concluded: "As much as any single project, this serene expanse of parkland made the Southwest a distinctive place."

(The research for this project was conducted in documents of the government agencies involved in the Urban Renewal Project found in agency and other government archives and was conducted at the request of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. The author is a Washington tour guide and active preservationist.)

Next issue: Amidon Sidewalk Park

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Anacostia River Health and Recreation Public Forum

A public meeting was held on Feb. 11, at the First District Police Station, 101 M Street, SW, to discuss the Anacostia River Health and Recreation. A panel of public health and environmental experts made brief presentations, followed by an open question and answer period. The panel featured government officials and health experts. Planned speakers were: Dr. Janet Phoenix, DC Environmental Health Collaborative, Dr. Sacoby Wilson, School of Public Health, University of Maryland, Collin Burrell, Associate Director, Water Quality Division, District Department of Environment, Donal Barron, Cost and Schedule Manager, DC Clean Rivers Project, DC Water. Tommy Wells, DC's Ward 6 Council Member and a paddler, greeted the meeting. The forum heard about the six toxic danger points in the Anacostia River. Toxics in the river are one of the main reasons that it is not safe to swim in or eat fish from the Anacostia River. A toxic is a chemical or mixture that is harmful to another organism. A legacy toxic site is identified by AWS as a high risk toxic site that has been contaminating the environment for a long period of time. There are 6 legacy toxic sites along the Anacostia River: Kenilworth Park, Washington Gas, Washington Navy



Concern for the health of the Anacostia River was expressed at a public forum at Police District One Headquarters (Former Bowen School) on Feb. 11.

Yard, Southeast Federal Center, Pepco's Benning Road Facility, and Poplar Point at Anacostia Park.

A REPORT CARD on the "State of the Anacostia River" was distributed at the forum. It has been prepared by AWS and the Anacostia Riverkeeper, which has offices in Building 74, a former Navy Yard Building now in The Yards, being redeveloped as housing. Contact information: Anacostia Riverkeeper, 515 M St. SE Suite 218, Washington DC 20003, 202-863-0158, www.anacostiariverkeeper.org, and Anacostia Watershed Society, 4302 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, MD 20710, 301-699-3317, anacostiasw.org. Cosponsor of the forum was the Anacostia Community Boathouse Association, 1900 M St. SE, DC 20003, www.anacostiaboathouse.org.

SW Census – Race, Age, Income, Education

By Dale MacIver

Residents of the Near SW neighborhood are 15% under 21 years of age and 15% 65 years and older, according to the count from the US Census in 2010. The median age is 40 years for all 11,510 residents of the houses, townhouses, apartments and condos in Zip Code 20024 – the area roughly west from East Capitol St. to the Washington Channel and south from the SE-SW Freeway to the Anacostia River.

On the 2010 census questionnaires, of

people living in this area who identified themselves by race, 3,941 checked white (34%) and 6,370 (55%) as black or African American and the rest other races.

The "Average income per household" is \$37,035, according to one website of Census data. The 2000 Census showed 49.2% with a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared with part of Capitol Hill (Zip 20003) of 49.4% and DC Citywide 49.2% and USA 27.9%.

These and other more detailed numbers on population age, race and households by type are on the web under Census 2010 data Zip Code 20024.

Local Issues Discussed at Mayor's Summit

Saturday morning, Feb. 11, sixteen hundred Washingtonians gathered at the Washington Convention Center for an all day discussion – over sandwiches and sodas – of four topics: Diversifying and Growing Our District Economy, Early Success: Thriving in the First Years, Educating Our Youth for the Economy of Tomorrow, and Aligning Residents' Job Skills with Our Growing Economy.

Each of the one hundred plus tables of ten around the room discussed topics, sent suggestions by laptop to a review team, where summaries and possible choices were flashed on large screens. Individual keypads allowed each resident to



Part of the Convention Center roomful at the Feb. 11 Summit

answer questions and vote on preferences.

The thousands of responses were analyzed for a preliminary report of the Summit's recommendations before the meeting ended. A final report is expected later.

Ofield Duke Passes

By Thelma Jones

Long-time Southwest resident and public relations pioneer Ofield Dukes passed on December 7, 2011 in his hometown of Detroit, Michigan. More than 1000 people attended his memorial service on January 13, 2012 at Shiloh Baptist Church in Northwest. The service was organized by Shirley Hausley, a long time friend and Southwest resident. Born on August 8, 1932 in Rutledge, Alabama, Dukes was the founder of Ofield Dukes & Associates, a prominent public relations firm in Washington, DC. He revolutionized the public relations industry by increasing the visibility of African-Americans working in the field. In 2001, Dukes became the first African American to receive the Public Relations Society of America coveted Gold Anvil Award, the highest honor in the profession. He will forever be regarded as a standard bearer for public relations professionals of all races. Although a national and international figure, Dukes was active in Southwest affairs. In 1985, he was appointed and served several years on the Southwest Community Council, Inc., the fiduciary arm of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, which later became the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. (SWNA). He heeded SWNA's requests



to speak at Black History Programs and provided generous support in efforts to help raise greater awareness of Justice Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, and Cathy Hughes, Founder, Radio One and TV One, all of whom were Southwest residents.

For several years, Dukes collaborated with the World Bank Group Office of Diversity Programs on the hiring and retention of U.S. minorities. Julie Oye-gun, Chief Diversity Officer at the World Bank recalls: "Ofield introduced me to Dr. Dorothy Height and a number of prominent African-Americans. Ofield was an integral member of the World Bank Group U.S. Minorities Working Group. He was my mentor, and a dear friend and brother in a common cause." One of the most noteworthy memories of Dukes at the World Bank was the naming of an internship program — the Howard University Ofield Dukes Scholarship — in his honor. This small but significant program enabled Howard students to intern in the World Bank's External Affairs Department to gain experience and insight into the institution. He also served as a mentor to the interns and often assisted them with external job placement upon their graduation from Howard University. Dukes will be sorely missed by the many lives that he touched.

Your Vote on Apr. 3 in National & DC Elections

By Dale MacIver

Seven Presidential hopefuls, two candidates for U.S. House of Representatives and seven candidates for three at-large seats on the DC Council will be on the ballots to be marked up by registered voters of Near SW and Near SE DC, the distribution area of this paper. Other positions – such as "Shadow" House and Senate members for D.C. and political party officials will be on ballots, too.

Because Apr. 3 is just the Political Party Primary, to narrow the field for the Nov. 6 General Election, only voters whose registrations show "Party affiliation" as Democratic, Republican or D.C. Statehood Green party are eligible to have their votes counted in this primary election. (Each voter has been sent a Voter Registration card that shows which of those three the voter chose or No party). An "independent" voter who designated No Party can not vote in the Apr. 3 Primary, but may vote in the Nov. 6 General election.

The deadline for being listed on the D.C. Ballots was Feb. 6, 2012.

REGISTER BY MAIL (POSTCARD APPLICATIONS ARE ON A SHELF IN THE LIBRARY AND AT THE DMV OFFICE AT 95 M ST. SW) OR REGISTER WHEN YOU VOTE. YOUR NAME WILL THEN BE ON THE VOTER LIST IN LOCAL LIBRARY – Each public library in Ward 6 has a big thick book with the names and addresses of all registered voters who live in Ward 6 (Capitol Hill and Near SW), listed in alphabetical order. Anyone can look at it. It tells your address, party you chose to register in and recent elections you voted in.



FOUR ELECTION SITES IN NEAR SE/ SW APR. 3, FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM.

Election Precincts 127, 128, and 142 still cover the Near SW neighborhood. Precinct 131 covers the Near SE neighborhood.

Voting booths are set up:

For Precinct 142 at Jefferson Middle School, 7th & H SW (enter from parking lot side).

For Precinct 128 at Friendship Baptist Church Delaware Ave. SW and I (Eye) St SW (enter from parking lot),

For Precinct 127 at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center, First & N St. SW, and

For Precinct 131 at Van Ness School at M St. & 5th St. SE. Each voter's card shows this information. The hours for voting – 7 am to 8 pm.

Check your election district by entering your address on the DC Election Board website – or by calling 727-2525.

EARLY VOTING (During the last two

Continued on Page 11

Southwest Library Programs for Young Adults

"HOMEGIRL TO HOMEGIRL" teen girls club takes place monthly, every 1st and 3rd Thursday. The Southwest Library has created a special club to mentor and empower teen girls! Arcynta Ali Childs, young African-American journalist/mentor and DC native, creates a safe space for laughing, talking, questions, requests and activities. Our teen girls club has focused on getting to know each other a bit while discussing personal boundaries and appropriateness as well as aspects of identity and having the confidence and courage to share our insecurities and injustices surrounding it.

We would love to have more young adult girls join in. They are welcome to bring their own snacks (and we provide a bit as well). Come see what it's all about. March meetings are Mar. 1 and 15. from 4 to 5:15pm. (Ages 13 to 18 welcome)

URBAN FICTION FANS (The ultimate book club for urban lit enthusiasts and critics) Are you an avid reader of novels by authors like Coe Booth, Omar Tyree, Reign and Zane? Come swap book titles, bring your current reads or draft copies. Critique characters and storylines. Discuss societal concerns with others who read or write urban



Looking across the SW Library reading room from the Youth corner, one can see the many computer stations being used by youth and adults.

literature. Semi-monthly meetings...next gathering on Saturday, February 25th from 3 - 4:30pm

VOTE

From p. 10

weeks before election day) In-person Absentee ballots may be cast at the DC Election Boards' office at One Judiciary Square (Old City Hall) (4th & D St. NW) Red Line Metro Judiciary Square – Mon. Mar. 19 thru Sat. Mar. 24, or Mon. Mar. 26 thru Sat. Mar. 31 from 8:30 am to 7 pm and on Mon. Apr. 2 from 7:30 am to 4:45 pm.

LUNCH

From p. 7

The list of who's who of mentor-participants in the program over the years rivals the State of the Union. According to Salander, current Secretaries of Transportation and Education Ray LaHood and Arne Duncan are participants. Scores of Members of Congress and their staffs provided much of the leg work in the early years and have continued to play a substantial role throughout the program. Perhaps the most notably participant, former Senator Jim Jeffords from Vermont spearheaded the program in 1995 as a Congressman and the chairman of the Subcommittee for Education. Senator Ted Kennedy participated in the program, as well, right up until his death in 2009.

FANS

From p. 12

enthusiastic support. However, publicity in Philadelphia news media about the DC initiative has generated a backlash of increased interest in their locust-like invasion of our turf. And the following days brought even more publicity there about a complaint penned by Pennsylvania Congressman Bob Casey claiming unfair discrimination against his Phine Phillies Phans. (Casey makes no mention of the offensive behavior that caused many DC fans to avoid attending Phillies games with their families.) If Philadelphia bus-trip operators have again obtained blocks of tickets, the "Take Back Our Park" series may prove to be contested more in the stands than on the field. In that case, the best, and most satisfying, way to quiet the invading hordes will be to repeat last September's four-game series sweep and win these three.

Going to www.nationals.com/ourpark will get you the Nats offer for the May 4-6 Phillies tickets. The site works great.



King-Greenleaf Rec Center Basketball

One of the teams at the King-Greenleaf Recreation Center, Feb. 2012, during a practice session

College Varsity From Southwest

After a winning game Matt Johnson, left, and Marty Watson greet each other.

As freshmen, they are on the varsity basketball team at Montgomery College, Takoma Park. They both grew up in Near SW, playing on teams of Club #4, King-Greenleaf Rec, Jefferson and Wilson.



Jazz Demonstration at King-Greenleaf

Dave Robinson, Director of the Capitol Focus Jazz Band for the past 23 years, demonstrates his trumpet mute to youth at King Greenleaf Recreation Center during a break at a concert the Band put on. Coralie Farlee and the center's new director Ms. Toni Plater-McBrid arranged for the concert.



14TH ST. NW BRIDGE STUDY BOOK AT SW LIBRARY

Architects drawings for future projects are often on a shelf in the public library for that area. Here is the book for the study of the 14th St. Bridge Corridor. Others are the SW Waterfront Phase I and the Maryland Ave. SW study.

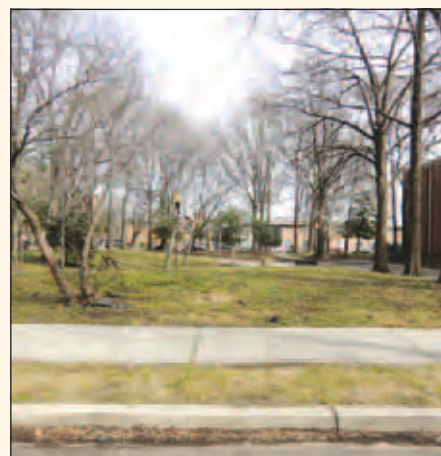
PLAYGROUND

From p. 8

Park site was transferred to the District Department of Parks and Recreation showed that any contaminants in the soil fell well below the District Leaking Underground Storage Tank Remediation Standards, and met the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Federal Standards, rendering the land safe. Meanwhile, the Southwest Branch Library will receive an \$8.8 million complete renovation over the next few years and the playground will complement the upgrades planned at the library to create an inviting space for all Southwesterners, from the young to the young at heart.

Another community meeting will be held within the next couple of months to review with the community the preliminary plans from

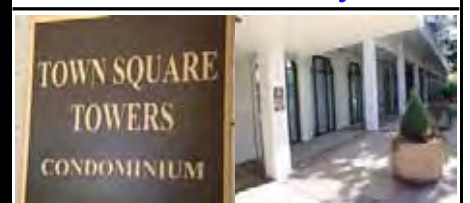
LAB and solicit more input. While our goal is to have the Community Build Day this spring, we are waiting for the city to address drainage issues that need to be resolved at the site so the pocket park



SW Library Playground – Feb. 2012

can be transformed into a playground. If you'd like to become a volunteer, the next planning meeting of the SWPP will be held on Saturday, February 25 at 1pm at the library. We would like to thank the Southwest community for all of their support as we work to bring a safe, centrally located playground for the children of Southwest.

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Notes On the Nats: Star Pitcher, Edwin Jackson, Joins Rotation

By Zev Feder

Another pleasant surprise from the Nationals. My excitement for the coming season has surpassed even my own expectations. Most recently, \$9 million added to the 2012 team budget has brought us free-agent and starting pitcher No. 4, a 2009 power-arm allstar and no-hitter-thrower Edwin Jackson, to our already formidable rotation of Strasburg, Gonzalez, Zimmermann and Wang/Detwiler/Lannan.

One small dilemma for the coaches: Steven Strasburg will have a 160-inning limit for the 2012 season. In rationing his innings over the season, do we postpone our star pitcher's first start until May? Do we shut him down when we reach competition crunch time in September? Or do we rework the rotation to spread his innings over the course of the sea-



Edwin Jackson

son by pairing him in a tag-team rotation slot with another pitcher, possibly Chien Ming Wang, splitting the nine-inning game between them? (And, hopefully, resting our bullpen.)

Even with Strasburg at an 80 percent of season cap, the National League East Division this season is shaping up to be a headbanger.

Nationals Fans Mobilized to Fill Stadium vs. Phillies

By Zev Feder

The Nationals have announced a new "Take Back Our Park" initiative for the home series against the Philadelphia Phillies that is scheduled for May 4, 5 and 6, extending to local fans, only, a pre-season opportunity to purchase tickets. The May 6 game will be a nationally-televised Sunday Night Baseball event, and a stadium predominantly filled with raucous Phillies Phans would certainly be a National(s) embar-

rassment the team would rather avoid and our home fans would again hate to experience. CEO Andy Feffer states in his press release announcing the promotion, "Forget you, Philly. It's our fans, our time, our park, and we are going to fill it with Nationals fans." He invites local fans to purchase tickets prior to tickets being made available to the general public.

This is a great initiative worth Nats fans'

Continued on Page 11



On a Sunday early in Feb. Donald (Disco) Covington (in the red hat) dribbles to get in position for one of his familiar 3-point shots.

Older Adults Play Basketball

Every other Sun. men in their 40s and older compete in basketball at King- Greenleaf Center at 1st & N SW.

And now a tournament of 10 teams of "50 and Over Men" is underway on Saturdays through April from 1 pm to 6 pm at the center, 201 N St. SW.

Bring the 50s and Over program to the Southwest center are

Ms. Gee, Senior Program Coordinator at the Center (202-645-7454), Mr. Wallace Perry, DRP Roving Leaders Director (202-698-2311) and Mr. Semmeon Williams, DPR Adult Sports Coordinator (202-709-0291).

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